

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: HSEMD Public Information Officer
515-725-3231 or HSEMDPIO@iowa.gov

Gov. Branstad designates March 23-27 as Severe Weather Awareness Week

DES MOINES – Governor Terry E. Branstad has proclaimed March 23-27, 2015, as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Iowa.

The Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) and the National Weather Service (NWS) have again joined together to promote severe weather awareness and family preparedness.

For each day during Severe Weather Awareness Week, a different subject will be featured:

- **Monday** – Flash floods
- **Tuesday** – Weather warnings
- **Wednesday** – Tornadoes
- **Thursday** – Severe thunderstorms
- **Friday** – Family preparedness

The annual tornado drill will take place on Wednesday, March 25, at approximately 10 a.m. Schools, businesses, state and local governments, and individuals are strongly encouraged to participate in the drill. Additional information about the tornado drill can be found on local [NWS websites](#).

“Severe Weather Awareness Week is the perfect time to practice our emergency plans and review the items in our emergency supply kits,” said Stefanie Bond, public information officer for HSEMD. “Make sure your medications, batteries, food, and water are all up to date. And, every member of your family should know what to do if severe weather strikes – no matter where you are when it does.”

Brochures and fact sheets about severe weather safety and family preparedness are available for download on the [Ready Iowa](#) site and NWS websites. Additional information can be found on NWS and HSEMD social media accounts, including Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube, throughout the week using hashtag **#IASWAW**. Logos, graphics, and a copy of the governor’s proclamation can also be found on the [Ready Iowa](#) website.

The Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management leads, coordinates and supports homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

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Link to HSEMD’s [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#) pages.